

from Congressman Earl Blumenauer

SPECIAL MEDICARE ALERT



Rep. Earl Blumenauer, with Rep. Ed Markey, questions witnesses during a committee hearing.

Congressman **Earl Blumenauer**
Representing Oregon's 3rd District

Earl wants to hear from you!

The best way to make sure your congressman understands your priorities and ideas is to tell him yourself. There are many ways to contact Earl:

Visit
<http://blumenauer.house.gov>

Portland Office
729 N.E. Oregon Street
Suite 115
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 231-2300

To email Earl, please visit
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Earl Blumenauer
M.C.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

from Congressman Earl Blumenauer

Dear Neighbor:

In addition to keeping in touch through regular Town Hall Meetings and newsletters, I also think it's important to mail you directly about time-sensitive issues and opportunities. Right now there are two important things you should know about: a threat to the Medicare system and a congressionally authorized program to distribute free coupons for a digital television converter box.

I hope this information is useful to you. As always, please feel free to contact me with your questions, ideas and thoughts.

Sincerely,



Congressman **Earl Blumenauer**
Representing Oregon's 3rd District



TV Converter Box Coupon Program

On February 17, 2009, television stations will switch to 100% digital broadcasting. If you have an older television that is not connected to cable, a satellite dish or other pay service, you may need to purchase a TV Converter box.

Congress created a program that allows US households to obtain up to two coupons, each worth \$40, which can be applied toward the cost of eligible converter boxes.

Supplies of coupons are limited. I want to make sure that everyone in the Third Congressional District takes advantage of these coupons and obtains one before they are no longer available.

For more information, or to download a coupon application, go to www.dtv2009.gov. If you don't have access to the internet, please contact my office at 503-231-2300 for more information.

Request your coupon:

ONLINE: www.dtv2009.gov

CALL: 1-888-DTV-2009

MAIL: PO Box 2000,
Portland, OR 97208-2000

FAX: 1-877-DTV-4ME2

Medicare Update

Last week President Bush unveiled his budget for 2009, proposing over \$600 billion in cuts to Medicare over the next ten years. These cuts will have a devastating effect on Oregon's seniors and low-income and disabled communities, making it increasingly difficult for beneficiaries to access medical care. The President's proposal is considered dead on arrival. As a member of the Budget Committee, I will work with my colleagues to protect our seniors and preserve this vital program.

If you are interested in following this issue, sign up for our free Medicare email update at www.blumenauer.house.gov.